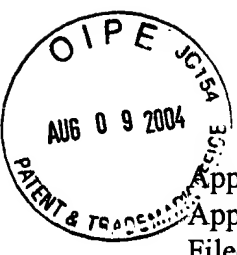


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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: CIT1390-1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroaki Shizuya Art Unit: 1636
Application No.: 09/896,509 Examiner: M. Marvich
Filed: June 28, 2001 Confirmation No.: 8122
Title: METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING AN ESSENTIAL GENE IN A
PROKARYOTIC MICROORGANISM

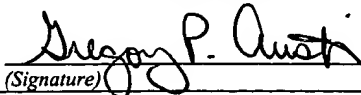
MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for the above-identified application please find:

1. Response to the Office Action mailed May 5, 2004 (16 pgs.) and
2. Return Receipt Postcard.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8	
I hereby certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on this date, August 5, 2004, in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
Gregory P. Austin (Name of Person Mailing Paper)	
 (Signature)	August 5, 2004 (Date)

In re Application of:
Hiroaki Shizuya
Application No.: 09/896,509
Filed: June 28, 2001
Page 2

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: CIT1390-1

Applicants claim **SMALL ENTITY** status in the above-identified application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.27, a verified statement claiming small entity status is not required.

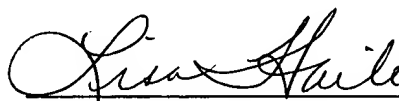
The Fee for this Response is calculated as follows:

For	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Small Entity Rate	Large Entity Rate	Calculations
Total Claims	54	55	0	x \$09	x \$18	\$0
Independent Claims	3	3	0	x \$43	x \$86	\$0
Multiple Dependent Claim(s)	N/A			\$145	\$290	\$0
					TOTAL FEE	\$0

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this paper. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fee associated with the filing submitted herewith, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1355. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 5, 2004



Lisa A. Haile, J.D., Ph.D.
Registration No. 38,347
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USPTO CUSTOMER NO. 28213



PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: CIT1390-1

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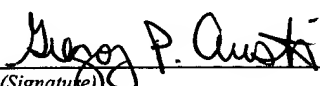
RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed herein on May 5, 2004, please consider the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page two of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page twelve of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8	
I hereby certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on this date, August 5, 2004, in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
Gregory P. Austin (Name of Person Mailing Paper)	
 (Signature)	August 5, 2004 (Date)